

**INFORMATION REPORT**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

COUNTRY Nicaragua

SUBJECT Possible Coup by General Somoza

PLACE ACQUIRED

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[REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] General Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua is likely to stage a coup d'etat at any time. Somoza may simply accept President Roman's resignation, or oust him with the explanation that a change is necessary because of the precarious economic situation that now exists in Nicaragua.

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2. [REDACTED] Somoza has described Roman's supporters as thieves and spongers. [REDACTED] Roman was unusually despondent during an interview on [REDACTED]. The President said that there would probably be changes in the cabinet soon, but that he did not know what they would be.

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3. Should Somoza decide to govern in name as well as in fact, the change would cause little stir locally. The opposition has practically given up, and [REDACTED] no action was likely to be taken against Somoza for many months. [REDACTED] the oppositionists missed their chance when they postponed a coup planned for December 1948.

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4. Some oppositionist exiles are returning to Nicaragua, but [REDACTED] that there were no indications of an imminent return by General ~~Emiliano~~ Chamorro, exiled Nicaraguan Conservative leader.\*

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[REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] reported that Chamorro would return to Nicaragua if nothing was done by [REDACTED] to oust Somoza, and that Chamorro's presence in Nicaragua would greatly enhance oppositionist plans.

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